

### REMARKS

Claims 1 to 26 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 8, 9, 10 and 15 are independent. Favorable reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Initially, Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication that claims 10 to 18 are allowable, and for the indication that claims 4 and 7 contain allowable subject matter. The remaining claims were rejected over the art cited in the Office Action.

On page 2 of the Office Action, it was said that the rejected claims would be allowable if amended to recite that the data sequences comprise "usage and control data" and that information is stored in a "common buffer memory". As shown above, Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 8 and 9 substantially along the lines suggested by the Examiner (although the wording is slightly different). These claims are now believed to be in condition for allowance.

Each of the dependent claims is also believed to define patentable features of the invention. Each dependent claim partakes of the novelty of its corresponding independent claim and, as such, has not been discussed specifically herein.

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this

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paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the application is in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

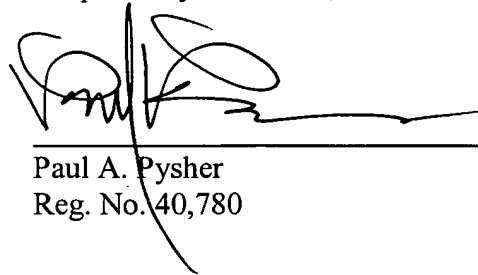
Applicant's undersigned attorney can be reached at the address shown below. All telephone calls should be directed to the undersigned at 617-521-7896.

Please apply any fees or credits due in this case, which are not already covered by check, to Deposit Account 06-1050 referencing Attorney Docket No. 12758-060US1.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

August 18, 2004



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